

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

**This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:**

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1. (currently amended): A method for depositing a coating on one face of ~~at least one~~ several containers made of a thermoplastic using a low-pressure plasma by excitation of a precursor gas by UHF electromagnetic waves in a only one circular vacuum chamber containing said containers, said UHF electromagnetic waves being supplied through a window of a side wall of said chamber, wherein a frequency of the UHF electromagnetic waves is selected and said only one chamber is sized such that a coupling mode is generated which generates ~~several a~~ number of electromagnetic fields inside the only one chamber, and wherein ~~several a same~~ number of containers are ~~disposed~~ disposable inside said only one chamber, ~~each said~~ containers being disposable coaxial-coaxially with a respective and respectively within one of said number of electromagnetic fields, whereby it is possible for several respective containers to be simultaneously treated in the ~~same~~ only one chamber.

2. (currently amended): The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein a TM 120 coupling mode is established, which generates two central fields inside the chamber, and wherein two containers are disposed inside said only one chamber, said two containers being coaxial respectively to said two electromagnetic fields, whereby two containers can be simultaneously treated in said chamber.

3. (withdrawn): A device for depositing a coating on one face of at least one container made of a thermoplastic using a low-pressure plasma by excitation of a precursor gas by UHF electromagnetic waves in a circular vacuum chamber containing said container, which device comprises a UHF wave generator and a UHF waveguide for connecting said generator to a window of a side wall of the chamber, wherein said generator emits an electromagnetic wave having a frequency  $f = 2.455$  GHz, and wherein the diameter of said chamber is about 273 mm to establish a TM<sub>120</sub> coupling mode that generates two central fields in the cavity, whereby it is possible for two containers to be simultaneously treated inside said chamber.

4. (canceled).

5. (withdrawn): The device as claimed in claim 3, wherein said chamber contains two quartz envelopes mounted in a vacuum-tight manner in the chamber and placed respectively substantially coaxial with the two central fields, wherein said chamber includes a single window for injecting the UHF waves, said window being located along the axis of symmetry of the two central fields, and wherein a single cover for closing off said chamber is equipped with a single coupler for connection to a vacuum source, which coupler is divided into two (at 11) in order to be connected to said two respective envelopes, with two precursor gas injectors that are connected to a single precursor gas source and with two support means for the two respective containers.

6. (withdrawn): The device as claimed in claim 5, wherein it includes positionally adjustable bottom and top plates suitable for acting on the respective return fields so as to refine the coupling in relation with various types of container to be treated.

7. (withdrawn): The device as claimed in claim 5, being designed for coating the inside of containers and wherein for this purpose, the precursor gas injectors are designed to sit inside the respective containers when said containers are supported by support means inside respective envelopes.